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In another column we are publishing the Compulsory Military Training bill as it was introduced in Congress, together with a short summary. The bill was passed in the Senate on Tuesday. This bill is especially drawn for the present and provides that if not continued by Congress it will become inoperative in 1945. However, we feel that it would be an especially good thing to have a law requiring all young men to receive three to four years military training before reaching 25 years of age. It would contribute a great deal to better health, better discipline and better morale, and of course, in times of emergency would contribute greatly to the armed strength to the country.

Special Privileges Must Go

THE role of labor in national defense is a topic which is causing much thoughtful discussion these days. And labor's best friends have come to the conclusion that it, no less than capital, must make sacrifices in the interest of liberty.

No longer can we afford costly industrial tie-ups, while labor leaders and management wrangle and get nowhere. No longer can production be deliberately slowed down to conform to the ability of the least efficient workman. And no longer will the public approve a legislative policy which, in effect, starts with the premise that the manager is always wrong and the worker always right in industrial disputes.

The tragic experience of France contains a hard lesson for America. In France, working hours were not increased until the last moment—and that was largely responsible for the nation's incredible military weakness. Politics pampered the worker—and politics thus made defeat inevitable.

This does not mean that the worker is to be exploited. It simply means that all factors in our society must give up special privileges—that no man can escape the necessary sacrifices. That is the first step toward security.

Experts Survey The Farm Problem

FORTUNE recently held a "round table" meeting for the purpose of surveying farm policies, from a straight business-like, non-political point of view. Twenty-two agricultural experts were invited to attend, of whom the majority were real "dirt farmers." The experts talked, argued and analyzed—and produced a number of highly interesting conclusions.

They pointed out that failure of export markets is hurting farmers, and that agriculture needs assistance to get back to some sort of parity level. They then made five definite suggestions for improving the farmers' lot: A public policy of soil conservation; better farm marketing and reduction of erratic fluctuation in prices; elimination of interstate trade barriers and discriminatory commodity taxes; lower costs of food distribution and improved marketing facilities; new industrial uses for farm products.

The suggestion concerning lower food distribution costs is especially important—for it is here that the recent legislative trend has been most inimical to farmer-consumer welfare. Our lawmakers have gone the limit in discouraging efficiency and encouraging waste, with consequent higher prices and narrowing markets. We have legalized price-fixing—we have levied punitive taxes—we have burdened progressive retailing with a mass of restrictions which tend to increase prices, to freeze prices, or prevent price reductions. And the farmer, along with the wage-earner, has inevitably suffered.

The Fortune round table turned the spotlight on the fallacy of legislative policies which handicap or prevent normal production and distribution.

More Deadly Than Bombers

WHEN a bomber of a warring nation destroys important industries and kills helpless people, it causes public consternation and determination to correct the evil.

Minor news items in Oregon in two days reported death and destruction by fire which puts the average bomber to shame. For instance, three children were trapped and burned to death in an upstairs bedroom in their home and a neighbor was injured in attempting their rescue. Fire swept through and virtually destroyed a logging community comprised of homes and an abandoned sawmill. Another blaze destroyed a seed experimental plant and canned milk to the value of \$150,000. A fourth fire swept through a railroad siding at a cost of \$75,000. A fifth fire burned a sawmill at a cost of \$40,000, leaving 80 employes jobless.

That's better than the average record of death and destruction caused by a modern bomber, and yet it is

simply the report of the fires in one sparsely settled state for two days. Multiply that record by 48 states and increase it in proportion to population, and you have an idea of what the enemy, Fire, is costing this nation. If bombers caused as much damage, the loss would be blazoned in the headlines across the land.

While insurance covers some of the material loss from fire, it cannot replace the 10,000 lives that it wipes out annually, or the thousands of jobs that are destroyed, loss of business or priceless possessions.

As every citizen pays in some way or other when fire strikes, every citizen should be vitally interested in fire prevention. During dry summer months every effort should be made to eliminate fire hazards and control fire.

Tax the Tax Eaters

MUNICIPAL power utilities in Nova Scotia, Canada, are to be taxed in the future on the same basis as private utilities. The reason for that, in the words of Angus Macdonald, Premier of the Province, is that "nothing is more unfair than the way publicly-owned projects are exempt from taxation, although they are carrying on the same business as private concerns." The Province, Premier Macdonald added, should be receiving something like \$75,000 a year in taxes from the publicly-owned companies.

That should arouse considerable interest in this country—particularly among those who have regarded the Canadian public systems as model enterprises, and have pointed with pride to the low rates charged. As all students of the matter know, these low rates have been the result of a policy of indirect and direct subsidization. The plants were largely built with tax money—they have been given immunity from taxes—and, in many cases, additional doles of tax money have been necessary to make up their recurrent deficits.

What is true in Canada is true to even a larger extent in the United States. Tax immunity for publicly-owned business enterprises has no economic justification whatsoever. It is purely and simply a political device to conceal from the people the real financial facts about the systems. In effect, all the taxpayers must help pay the bills of the few who are served by public systems. And the cost to the general taxpayer, in such large ventures as TVA, Bonneville, Grand Coulee, etc., runs into the hundreds of millions.

A law to tax publicly-owned utilities the same as private companies has long been agitated in this country. It has been supported by economists, a large section of the press responsible statesmen, and thinking citizens. With government seeking tax revenue as never before, this vital "reform" should be immediately effected. The advocates of tax immunity for any government business enterprise haven't a leg to stand on.

They should also be placed under government control as to rates.

What The Next President Must Face

AT best, the presidency of the United States is one of the world's toughest jobs. When a man takes the oath of office from the Chief Justice and goes to live in the White House, he accepts duties and responsibilities which will be with him every waking minute of his time.

The next president will take on an even tougher job than the great majority of his predecessors have faced. He will take office in a time of world crisis and national emergency. And as soon as he sits down at his desk he will have to grapple with problems whose solution is known to no one. He will have to be prepared to deal with changes and trends which menace all that the United States has created since the Revolution, and which threaten the very foundations of our system of government.

The next president's most immediate problem will be that of national defense. It is apparent that we will be able to produce little that is tangible, so far as defense is concerned, this year. It takes time for a great nation to switch from a peace economy to a war economy. The groundwork for a workable program is being laid now, but difficult bottlenecks exist. And we start the defense program under the definite handicap of a \$45,000,000,000 national debt largely built up during the last eight years. There is a possibility that the debt will reach and perhaps pass the \$70,000,000,000 mark before we are done.

Even so, the defense problem, vital as it is, is perhaps the simplest of the next president's jobs—few question that we will find some way to produce and pay for the guns and airplanes and battleships we must have. Before him will be other problems, far-reaching and immensely difficult, which must eventually be solved. And here are a few of them:

There is the problem of trade. Today Hitler dominates the continent—tomorrow he may dominate all Europe. And Hitler does not deal in money, which means dealing in gold. He deals, instead, in barter. His economy goes back to the most primitive of economic systems. He says, in effect, "I have coal that you need—you have machines that I need—so we will trade them." The task of the United States will be to either meet Hitler's terms, which would involve a veritable economic revolution here, or to force him to meet our traditional trade policy—which few economists believe he will be willing or able to do.

There is the problem of agriculture, which is related to the problem of trade. We have spent immense sums in the name of farm relief, and it is apparent that we have gotten little of durable worth in return. Today the problem grows graver, as our foreign markets disappear. There is a certainty that Europe will want and need more of the produce of our farms and ranches—but there is also the certainty that Europe will be unable to pay for it. The next president, sitting in his ornate office, will have to seek a way out, and whichever way he

turns there will be gigantic barriers between him and success.

There is the problem of unemployment, coupled with the problem of relief. The defense program will make many jobs, but it does not look as if it will take care of the millions of unskilled and little-skilled men and women who today are supported in one way or another by government. In some important lines there is a serious shortage of workmen—many willing hands reach out for jobs, but they are not adequate to perform the tasks. Training people for highly skilled work takes a long time, and it also takes facilities which do not now exist in sufficient quantity.

There is the problem of the American standard of living. Whatever we spend for national defense—fifteen billion, twenty billion, thirty billion—must eventually come out of the people's pockets. Perhaps fifteen per cent of the national income will now be devoted to armament, in addition to possible debt increases. That means that we will have fifteen per cent less to spend for housing, food, clothing, entertainment—all the luxuries and necessities. The next president will undoubtedly attempt to increase our national income sufficiently to make up for this—but, so far as we can see now, he is foredoomed to at least partial failure. It is almost universally agreed that the standard of living must suffer—that Americans will eat cheaper food, live in cheaper homes, spend less for subsistence and for pleasure.

These are but a few of the problems the next president must face. It isn't an enviable job.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

This will be the 10th Sunday after Trinity. There will be the Early Celebration of the Holy Communion at 8:00 A. M., Church School at 9:45 A. M., Morning Prayer and Sermon by the Rector at 11:00 A. M.

LOUISBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

At the Baptist Church on Sunday morning Rev. Forrest Weaver brought a challenging message on "The Cross in Daily Life." He will preach again on August 4th here.

Dr. A. Paul Bagby, pastor, will preach the last two sermons on a series entitled "The Heroic in Christianity." At eleven o'clock he will speak on "Other Calls for the Heroic." In the evening at eight o'clock he will speak at the Union Service at the Methodist Church on "The Heroic in Christianity." Sunday School at 9:45 A. M.

LOUISBURG METHODIST CHURCH

"In Earthen Vessels," will be the topic of Mr. Phillips message next Sunday morning at 11:00. This sermon will be based on 2 Corinthians 4. 7 and on Van Dyke's story entitled, "A Handful of Clay."

Sunday evening at 8:00 o'clock there will be the last of the July Union Services with Dr. A. Paul Bagby, of the Baptist Church preaching.

Church School and Epworth League are at 9:45 and 7:15. The Epworth League held a very profitable Council meeting on Monday evening at the home of Jane Gray Perry, the newly elected President of the Young People's Division. Miss Perry succeeds Miss Jane Fuller who has served very capably for the last twelve months.

Uruguay seizes Nazi leaders; secret session hears plot details.

THEY WOULD READ YOUR AD TOO, IF IT APPEARED HERE

Budget Saving SPECIALS

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR WEEKLY SAVINGS AND KEEP WITHIN YOUR FOOD BUDGET. QUALITY GOODS AT LOWEST PRICES MEAN REAL SAVINGS!

- "Armour's" Star Potted Meat, can 4c
- "Armour's" Vienna Sausages, 3 cans .. 25c
- "Armour's" Treet, ready to serve, can .. 22c
- "Crescent" Salad or Relish Spread, qt. 21c
- American Sardines, 6 cans 25c
- Macaroon Style Coconut, lb. 12½c

"SPUNKY" CAT & DOG FOOD
 6 - 1 lb. Cans 25c

"GIANT" IVORY SOAP
 2 Cakes 15c

LUX LUX LARGE 23c REG. 10c
 FOR ALL FINE LAUNDERING

"TIMELY" Fruit Cocktail 23c
 No. 2½ Can

JEWEL SALAD OIL, Pint 19c

- "BALL MASON" Jar RUBBERS, 6 dz. 25c
- Jar CAPS, doz. ... 22c
- FLY SWATTERS, each 5c & 10c
- FLY RIBBONS, dozen 20c
- FLY DED., Pint 20c - Qt. 35c
- POISON FLY PAPER, pkg. 5c
- SPRAYERS, each 20c

WEEK-END MEAT VALUES

- CO. PORK SIDE or SHOULDER, Pound 15c
- FRESH PORK SAUSAGE, Pound 15c
- KINGAN'S SMOKED CURED SAUSAGE, Pound 20c
- SWIFT'S SLICED BOLOGNA, Pound 15c
- DRESSED & DRAWN FRYERS, Pound 30c
- DRESSED & DRAWN HENS, Pound 20c

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 "LOUISBURG'S COMPLETE FOOD MARKET"
 — FRESH PEACHES, CANTALOUPES, WATERMELONS